Urban Mass Transit Company (UMTC) Ltd., a joint venture Company of Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL&FS—a financial institution—was set up in April, 1993 with initial equity participation of Rs. 15 lakhs by each of the participants. Another sum of Rs. 7 crores was released by the Government of India as advance towards the equity in 1994 subject to the condition that matching amounts should be released by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL&FS. The matter is pending with the Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL & FS. Further the Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that it is proposed to execute the Project of Government them selves rather than through UMTC. Government of India have however requested the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh to reconfirm their stand by 31.5.97.

Complaint Against Custom Officials

6048. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints made especially by foreign diplomats against the custom officials deputed on national/international airports during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Government are aware that foreign citizens/diplomats are harassed by these officials;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such complaints in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d): In November 1995 this Ministry had received a letter from Chief of Protocol, Ministry of External Affairs that some foreign missions had reported non-cooperative behaviour of Custom Officers posted at Indira Gandhi International Airport. The main complaint was that the diplomats who were holding Photo Identity Cards issued by Airports Authorities were not allowed to enter into Customs Area meant for arrival of passengers, the other types of complaint from foreign citizens in Intenational Airports are—delay in clearance of baggage, prevention from carrying foreign currency, long questioning in the airport etc. Each of these cases are investigated thoroughly and remedial action, including transfer of the officials, are promptly taken.

Technology Collaboration Insurance Sector

6049. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked the Indian banks to explore the possibility of venturing into Indian insurance sector in technical collaboration with foreign entities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Pattern Scheme

6050. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA had made commitments to some of the registrants of New Pattern Scheme 1979 in 1991 that it shall take allotment of flats to them before they retire from service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the DDA has fulfilled its commitment and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government had received any applications from such persons to whom commitments were made duly recommended by some of the M.Ps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the actions taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The DDA has reported that from time to time, the registrants of NPRS-1979 who retired/are retiring are given priority allotments, as per the policy of the Authority. For priority allotments retired/retiring registrants of NPRS-1979 are required to submit their application within the stipulated period when the same are invited. No such allotment is made on the recommendations of individuals/ MPs, if the application is not received within the stipulated period.

[Translation]

Allotment of Land

6051. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted land to Japan to set up Japanese Industrial Village in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefit likely to be accrued to that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.